

JUL 11 2006

Docket No. 740756-2678

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Confirmation No.: 6738
Shigeharu MONOE et al.)	
Serial No. 10/731,000)	Examiner: Evan T. Pert
Filed: December 10, 2003)	Group Art Unit: 2826
FOR: MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)	Date: July 11, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

The documents are being submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and thus no fee is due pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4).

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The listed documents, U.S. Patent No. 5,445,710 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0023478, were cited in an Office Action dated May 18, 2006, which issued in connection with U.S. Patent Application No. 10/731,089.

Substitute for form 1449A/P10 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/731,000
Sheet 1 of 1				Filing Date	December 10, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Shigeharu MONOE et al.
				Art Unit	2826
				Examiner Name	Evan T. Pert
				Attorney Docket Number	740756-2678

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,445,710	08/29/1995	Hori et al.	
		US-2004/0023478 A1	02/05/2004	Samavedam et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ⁴ Number ⁵ Kind Code ² (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.